

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1 and 11 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 11.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1 and 11 are amended for purposes of clarification. No new matter is added by way of these amendments. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in paragraph [0096] of the publication of the present application.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Turning to the rejection, the Examiner states that the claims are unclear with respect to what result of the “comparing” of the previous ECM and a new ECM will result in the error register being incremented, rendering the claims ambiguous. Independent claims 1 and 11 are amended by this reply to recite that the error register is incremented when the previous ECM and the new ECM do not match. *See* publication of present application, paragraph [0096].

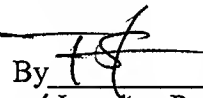
Thus, Applicant asserts that the independent claims are no longer indefinite. Pending dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number [17250/021001]).

Dated: August 18, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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